

Santa's Helpers, aka Santa Cops!

Once again the Grapevine Police Department is in the spirit of the season with the 2009 Santa Cops Program. Santa Cops bring joy and toys to economically disadvantaged children in our community. Last year, Santa Cops delivered toys to 527 families and 1561 children in the GCISD area.

The Santa Cops program is funded entirely by local donations. It is organized and implemented by Grapevine Police Officers and the Volunteers In Police Service (VIPS), their families, and community volunteers. Anyone interested in donating a new, unwrapped toy may take it to the Police Department at 307 West Dallas Road, or to any of the other drop boxes



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located at the Senior Activities Center, Community Activities Center, Central Fire Station, and City Hall through December 24th. Cash donations are also accepted.

The 2009 Santa Cop Toy Shoppe is again located at 520 South Main Street, across from Foust Funeral Home. Individuals and community groups interested in helping wrap the Santa Cops toys for the children are most welcome. The community gift wrapping dates are December 3, 8, 10, 15, and December 17, if necessary. Wrapping times are 6 to 9 pm each night. Police officers will deliver the toys to the children's homes in time for Christmas.

For the past several years, Willhoite's Restaurant at 432 South Main Street has hosted a Santa Cop Toy Drive. Willhoite's collects toys for Santa Cops all during the month of December, but on one special evening, guests are invited to bring toys, fellowship, dance to a live band, and share the joy of Christmas with Grapevine Police officers. This year's event will be held Thursday, December 10th, from noon until midnight at Willhoite's.

For further information, please contact the Community Relations Division of the Police Department: Senior Officers Johnny Jones at 817-410-3209, Jason Keller at 817-421-2192, or Scott Rhodes at 972-724-2126. 🍇

Breakfast with Santa

Join us for a delicious breakfast with Santa and his helpers on Saturday, December 5th from 7 to 11 am, at Fire Station One. War veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan, along with their families, will be honored. An Army Black Hawk helicopter may be landing! Monetary donations will be accepted to benefit the Grapevine Honor Guard and Buckets Safety Brigade. 🍇



**Saturday, December 5th
7-11 am
Fire Station One**

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Parks and Rec

Texas Round~up Governor's Challenge

Last year, City of Grapevine employees competed in the Texas Round~up Governor's Challenge, and the City was awarded the Gold Medal for municipalities with over 500 employees.

In 2010, the City is taking this initiative to residents by asking everyone to help make Grapevine the fittest city in Texas. Beginning January 1st, visit texasroundup.org and join the program under the City of Grapevine Resident Team. Once registered, simply log all of your physical activities with the free online team tracker that is provided by the Texas Round~up. Any physical activity you perform in a day counts towards individual and team overall standings.

We know Grapevine is the greatest city in Texas...join us in making it the fittest city in Texas! The program runs January 1st through April 10th.



30-minute personal training sessions for \$330 and receive two free sessions, a \$420 value.

Build Your Dream Gingerbread House

Your family is invited to make their gingerbread dream house on Saturday, December 5th at the CAC. Construction material is provided; all you need to bring is your creativity, holiday cheer and extra candy. Holiday cookies and drinks will be served. Sessions are at 10:30 am, 1 pm, or 3:30 pm. Register at the CAC or by calling 817-410-3450.

Letters to Santa - Free



Hey kids, write a letter to Santa, drop it in the special mail boxes located at the Gazebo, Depot, and the CAC, and get a response from the North Pole! Letters need to be dropped off by Monday, December 21st. You may also email Santa at santa@letterstosanta.us.

Gazebo Holiday Light Show Spectacular-Free

Join us December 1st through January 3rd as the Holiday Light Show Spectacular delights the young and young at heart. Watch as hundreds of thousands of lights dance in synchronization to high energy and traditional holiday music from 6 to 9:30 pm (shows on the hour and half-hour). A must-see holiday attraction!

Community Activities Center (CAC) Fitness Facility Promotion

Want to join a full-service fitness facility for under \$3 a month? Grapevine residents are eligible for membership at the CAC for only \$35 a year. The CAC boasts two full-sized basketball courts, two racquetball courts, an indoor walking/running track and a weight/cardiovascular room.

New Year's CAC Personal Training Special

Purchase five 30-minute personal training sessions for \$170 and receive 1 free session, a \$210 value. Purchase ten

Brown Bag Lunch with Santa - Free

Bring a brown bag lunch to the CAC from 11:30 am to 1 pm on Wednesday, December 16th and have lunch with Santa, listen to holiday stories, make a holiday craft, and jump in the bounce house. Registration not required.

Winter Treat Garland

Kids will learn about birds that winter in their yard and make natural goodies to feed those birds on Tuesday, January 19th at the Grapevine Botanical Gardens Educational Pavilion. Please call 817-410-3450 to register. \$5 class fee.

Cycle-Pilates - New

The best of both worlds - cycling and pilates with Wendy

Dolan. Build core strength and flatten your abs with pilates mat exercises. Burn lots of calories and build cardiovascular endurance with cycling. Ages 16 & up; Wednesday from 6:45 to 7:45 pm; \$40/month; Class code 706605.

Denim & Diamonds Daddy Daughter Dance - A Classy Affair with Texas Flair

Bring your special "little lady" to the biggest and best Cowgirl Ball in all the West on February 6th at the CAC. This annual Daddy/Daughter Dance is a fabulous evening filled with dancing, food, limousine rides, carriage rides, crafts, fun photo opportunities and more. Tickets go on sale January 3rd at the CAC or by calling 817-410-3450. Space is limited and tickets will not be sold at the door. Tickets are \$15/pp on or before February 1; \$18 beginning February 2. Party time for daughters 0-7 years is from 4 to 6 pm. Daughters 8 years and up will party from 7 to 9 pm. Dads with daughters in both age groups may choose to attend either time slot.

The Vineyards Campground & Cabins

The Vineyards Campground & Cabins has quickly become a recognized and award-winning campground—not only in Texas, but nationally as well. Last December, the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds recognized The Vineyards Campground as one of 21 campgrounds in the country with a Guest Review grading of "A" as determined by customers. This summer, the Texas Association of Campground Owners awarded The Vineyards Campground & Cabins the Medium-Sized Campground of the Year award.

THE VINEYARDS CAMPGROUND & CABINS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Vineyards Campground & Cabins is expanding. Additional amenities will include 23 additional RV sites, sewer to all non-sewered sites, seven additional cabins, a campstore, expansion of the gatehouse, replacement of the boat ramp courtesy dock and fishing gangway, additional landscaping, shade shelters, additional overflow parking areas, and leveling of sites to better accommodate RV's.

A growing request from customers to have miscellaneous camping items for sale generated the need for a campstore. Proposed inventory will include RV, picnic and fishing supplies; some food and beverage items; firewood; ice; a computer station, and promotional items. Kayaks,

golf carts, bicycles, and geo-caching units will be available for rent at the campstore. Improvements are expected to be complete by May.

Athletics

Adult programs


Winter Flag Football - 8/8:

Registration: December 27- January 3
Late Registration: January 4 - 11 (+10% late fee)
Season Dates: January 17 - March 7
Fee: \$315/team

Spring Adult Softball

Registration: January 31 - February 7
Late Registration: February 8 - 15 (+10% late fee)
Season Dates: February 21 - April 30
Fees: \$170/team For Fun, \$320/team Men's D, E, Men's Super D, Men's Super E, COED Recreation, Men's Church


Winter COED Indoor Volleyball

Registration: January 31 - February 7
Late Registration: February 8 - 15 (+10% late fee)
Season Dates: February 22 - April 8
Fee: \$155/team 

City Receives Energy Efficiency and Conservation Grant

The City of Grapevine received an Energy Efficiency and Conservation grant through the U.S. Department of Energy to help upgrade several City facilities in an effort to make City facilities "greener."

The grant provides funds to install light sensors at the Police Station, City Hall, and Community Activities Center (CAC); upgrade lighting at the Police Station, City Hall, CAC, the Library, Animal Control, the Senior Center, Fire Stations 1 and 4, the Bessie Mitchell House, and the City's Information Technology building; install a reflective roof coating at the CAC, City Hall and Library; install solar hot water heaters at both the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants; install solar energy panels at the Water Treatment Plant, and install an E-85 fuel dispensing station at the Municipal Service Center for alternative fuel vehicles.

All of these projects are part of the City's plans to become cleaner and greener, utilize sustainable energy, and conserve energy through efficiency. 

Convention and Visitors Bureau

Grapevine: The Christmas Capital of Texas™

CHRISTMAS ON MAIN STREET – Dec. 4-6, 11-13 & 18-20, Historic Downtown Grapevine's Christmas on Main Street features holiday treats, Santa Claus, costumed characters, and decorations adorning the mile-long stretch of Grapevine's Historic Main Street. For an enchanting Christmas wonderland experience, visit Historic Downtown Grapevine. Fridays, 2 to 6 pm; Saturdays, noon to 7 pm; Sundays, 2 to 5 pm.



NORTH POLE EXPRESS™ – Dec. 4-6, 11-13 & 18-20, Grapevine Vintage Railroad steams down the tracks with the North Pole Express™, complete with carols, stories and a captivating encounter with Santa Claus himself. So put on your jammies and ride the Grapevine Vintage Railroad to your Christmas dreams.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS – A BROADWAY STYLE EXPERIENCE – Dec. 1, 2, 6, 8-10, 13, 15-17, 20, 22, 23, Palace Theatre. Bring the family for a great Christmas tradition with favorite holiday songs, dance numbers, live music and other wonderful events on stage at the historic Palace Theatre.

PARADE OF LIGHTS - FREE – Dec. 3, 7 pm, Main and Vine Streets, heading north on Main Street to Wall Street. Thousands of merrymakers will witness an enchanting display of more than 100 colorfully lighted floats that will pass through Historic Downtown Grapevine, rolling to the tune of numerous marching bands playing holiday music. The Grapevine Parade of Lights is North Texas' largest lighted Christmas parade. The parade is free and open to the public.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS - FREE – Dec 4, 3-6 pm, Nash Farm, 626 Ball Street. Make- and-take ornaments (angel ornaments from the cotton field, as well as Victorian ornaments). There will also be cranberry stringing for garlands, hayrides on the farm, and hot chocolate.

CLASSIC CHRISTMAS MOVIES – Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28, 7 pm and 9 pm, Palace Theatre. It's not truly Christmastime until you have watched some of your favorite classic holiday movies. And why not watch them on the big screen at the historic Palace Theatre? Movies include hits like *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *A Christmas Story*, *Elf*, and more.

POST-CHRISTMAS TRAIN RIDES – Dec. 26-31, Jan. 2 and 3, Grapevine Vintage Railroad. With all of the family in town, come out and hop aboard the Grapevine Vintage Railroad for a step back in time. This week only, trains run every day from the Grapevine Depot at 1 pm and travel to the historic Fort Worth Stockyards.

FIRST FRIDAY FILM SERIES AT THE PALACE-AFRICAN QUEEN – Jan. 1, 7:30 pm, Palace Theatre. This great classic has everything you could ask for: Humphrey Bogart, Katharine Hepburn, adventure, drama, humor and romance. 🍇

Photos: Christmas on Main Street and Parade of Lights

GREENER Cleaner Grapevine



Save Water. Nothing Can Replace It! Save Money on your Sewer Bill All Year Long by Conserving Water in the Winter

Start saving money by taking the time to fix dripping and leaky faucets and toilets. Avoiding unnecessary outdoor water use during winter months will also help reduce your water and sewer bills.

Water usage is metered and read every month. Because it is not cost effective to meter sewer use, we use

an estimate of the water usage during the winter months in order to bill for sewer usage. The months of December, January, and February are used to determine this average. Since during this time period the water use for irrigation is minimal, the water use approximates the sewer discharge pretty closely. By paying close atten-

tion to your water use, you get double the savings. More than that, the sewer-use savings are carried throughout the year.

We encourage you to pay close attention to your water use and implement indoor water conservation over the next few months. It will prove well worth the effort. 🍇

2009 Commemorative Ornament Steam Locomotive

This year's Friends of the Library Commemorative Ornament, the 1896 Steam Locomotive, celebrates Grapevine's unique relationship with the railroad.

The Cotton Belt Railroad arrived in Grapevine in 1888 when the Section Foreman's House was built east of the Depot. The section foreman was responsible for maintaining the track from Grapevine to Bransford to the west, and near Carrollton to the east.

Locomotive #2248, also known as "Puffy", was built at the Cook Locomotive Works in Patterson, New Jersey, on August 29, 1896.



The steam engine was moved to Grapevine on August 29, 1996—on its 100th birthday—and is owned by the City of Grapevine.

Grapevine's other Locomotive Engine, #154 was built in 1880, rebuilt in 1900, and purchased second hand. Passenger trains into Fort Worth were discontinued about 1930, and passenger service between Addison and Fort Worth was provided by a mixed train that came through Grapevine at 10 pm.

The beautiful 2009 Steam Locomotive ornament may be purchased at the Library for \$10. If you are interested in purchasing past commemorative ornaments, many are still available at the Library. 🍇

Passports and Texas Birth Certificates

The City Secretary's Office in City Hall can help you obtain a Passport or Certified Texas Birth Certificate.

Passport applications are accepted by appointment only from 9 am to 2 pm, Monday through Friday. All air travelers, including U.S. citizens, must have a passport for travel to and from the United States, Mexico, Canada, the Caribbean and Bermuda. Processing of passport applications by the State Department is taking approximately six weeks. The U.S. Department of State provides valuable information regarding travel abroad and passport information at www.travel.state.gov.

Certified Texas Birth Certificates are available for persons born from 1926 to present (children must be two months old). Cost is \$23 per certificate, and are issued daily from 9 am to 4:30 pm at the City Secretary's Office. Applications may be downloaded online at www.grapevinetexas.gov/depts/citysecretary.

For additional information or to schedule an appointment for a passport, please call 817-410-3181. 🍇

Grapevine Library

December

5	10 – 5 pm	Christmas Market
6	2 – 5 pm	Christmas Market
12	10:30 am	DFW Machine Knitters Guild
12	11 am	YoYo Club
13	2:30 pm	Quilt Chat
14	10 am	Name Droppers
14	7:30 pm	Trinity High School Show Choir
17	7 pm	Visit with Santa

January

9	10:30 am	DFW Machine Knitters Guild
11	10 am	Name Droppers
14	7 pm	Mad Science
17	2:30 pm	Quilt Chat

5th Annual Artisans' Holiday Market – Join us Saturday, December 5th from 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, December 6th from 2 to 5 pm to support local artists. Don't miss this great holiday shopping opportunity that also benefits Grapevine Public Library. A wide selection will be available, including art glass and demonstrations, pottery, original oils, watercolors, and prints, knitted items, jewelry, photography, ornaments, handwoven scarves, shawls, blankets, towels, rugs, baskets and more. Enjoy live music throughout the day and find something special for everyone on your list. The Market is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Lone Star Spinners YoYo Club – If you would like to learn some amazing yoyo tricks, join the Lone Star Spinners in the Children's Program Room on Saturday, December 12th from 11 am to 12:30 pm. This program is free, open to everyone, and all supplies (yoyos, trick tops, and diablos) will be provided to help you practice.



**5th Annual
Artisans'
Holiday
Market**

Trinity High School Show Choir – The Euless Trinity High School show choir, Harmony, will present a lively, entertaining show at the Grapevine Public Library on Monday, December 14th at 7:30 pm.

A Visit with Santa Claus – Ho! Ho! Ho! Join Santa and Mrs. Claus for cookies, crafts, and Christmas stories on Thursday, December 17th at 7 pm. Children will be able to pose for pictures with Santa, so bring your cameras to this fun event for all ages.



Mad Science: Steam, Water, Snow and Ice – On Thursday, January 14th at 7 pm, a mad scientist will teach children about the different forms water can take. Children will be fascinated by the exciting science experiments.

American Red Cross – A representative from the American Red Cross will present an overview of the services they provide to the public, and information about getting involved as a volunteer. They may also briefly discuss disaster preparedness. This seminar takes place Tuesday, January 19th at 7 pm in the Program Room. 🍇

Labels for Education



You can help the Grapevine Public Library earn free computers, audio/visual equipment, reference books, and craft supplies simply by collecting Campbell UPC codes.

Just drop off the UPC codes from any of the following products in our lobby collection bin: Campbell's products; Prego sauces; Swanson stocks, broths, and canned poultry; Pepperidge Farm breads, cookies, crackers, and frozen products, and V8 juices.

Visit labelsforeducation.com for a complete list of eligible products. 🍇



Senior Activities Center (SAC)

All activities are available to adults 55 years and better. For more information, please call 817-410-8130. The Senior Activities Center is located at 421 Church Street.

Holiday Dinner Dance — Join us for our annual holiday dinner dance on Saturday, December 12th. Festivities begin at 6 pm with a potluck supper. The SAC will provide the entrée; you bring the side dishes. Dancing begins at 7 pm with the Gary Lee Orchestra. Admission is \$7 per person.

"The Littlest Wiseman" — Sign up to see a spectacular pageant of the Nativity on Saturday, December 5th at the Scott Theatre in Ft. Worth. Limited tickets are available for the matinee performance. Please call for more information.

Computer Class Registration — Computer class registration takes place on Monday, January 4th for the next session of free classes that begin the following week. Register in person from 9 am until noon, or by telephone from 1 to 2 pm. A complete list of classes offered is available at the SAC or on the City website beginning December 14th.

South Dakota Trip (May 13-19) — Explore the Black Hills and Badlands on this trip highlighting Mount Rushmore, Deadwood, Crazy Horse Memorial, Custer State Park, Wall Drug Store and Badlands National Park.



A deposit of \$100 is due by January 13th. For more information, please call Kaye Grayson, Senior Activities Center Director.

MindFit — Begin that New Year's resolution to keep your mind sharp. Enroll in the MindFit program at the SAC and embark on a fun way to assess, train and enhance your cognitive skills. The 72 game-like sessions take 20 minutes each to complete on the computer. For more information and to get started, please call the SAC.

SilverSneakers® — Stick with your New Year's resolution to get in shape by joining the SilverSneakers® fitness class offered Mondays and Wednesdays at 1 pm and Fridays at 11 am. Have fun and move to the music through a variety of exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement, and activity for daily living skills. 🍇

DFW Connector Project

Work will commence in early 2010. For more information on the project, please call the toll-free hotline at 1-877-411-4212 or visit www.dfwconnector.com.

Fats, Oils, and Grease: What Not to Do

Cooking kicks into high gear as the holidays approach. The most common method of disposal for grease and oil that is collected while cooking is to rinse it down the kitchen sink. This can lead to a variety of not so nice and potentially very expensive issues for both the homeowner and the City. Never put fats, oils and grease (FOG) down the drain or pour it in the storm drain outside.

FOG collects in the drain, sticking to other debris and themselves, and may lead to drain clogs anywhere between the drain and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Depending on where the clog is located, it can be costly for the homeowner, the City, or both parties to fix. It is also unpleasant.

Instead of sending your FOG down the drain, wipe FOG from pots and pans using a paper towel directly into the trash, and take deep frying and collected oil to the Environmental Collection Center at 6400 Bridge Street in Fort Worth. This service is free of charge to Grapevine residents.

Spending a little time disposing of FOG correctly will save you money, hassle, and headache in the future. 🍇

SILENT HERO — The Commission of State Emergency Communications has honored the achievements and contributions of the men and women who are the backbone of Texas' successful 9-1-1 program for over 20 years. One such honor, the Silent Hero Certificate of Recognition, is a noncompetitive award presented to an individual dispatcher in recognition of his or her exceptional professionalism in the field of emergency communications. It also acknowledges the special contributions of dispatchers who are an inspiration and example to others as demonstrated through job performance.

This year's Grapevine 9-1-1 Center recipient is Dispatch Supervisor Lisa Hollowell.

With 12 years experience, Lisa personifies the recognition criteria by demonstrating a positive attitude toward all aspects of her job by willingness to be a team player; professionalism and pride in her work and in her organization; ability to earn and maintain the respect of co-workers; flexibility in assignments; and excellent job performance. 🍇



ECRWSS Grapevine Resident

The City of Grapevine • PO Box 95104 • Grapevine, Texas 76099 • 817-410-3104 • www.grapevinetexas.gov

Grapevine Golf Course

December 24th – Grapevine Golf Tournament. 7:30 am shotgun start, individual format, Net & Gross, \$20 entry fee plus green and cart fee. Deadline is December 16th at 5 pm. Open to all Gold Card, GGA & LGA members.

December 25th – Grapevine Golf Course and practice facilities closed all day.

January 1st - Grapevine Golf Tournament. Tee times starting at 9 am, individual format, Net & Gross, \$20 entry fee plus green and cart fee. Deadline is December 23rd at 5 pm. Open to all Gold Card, GGA & LGA members.

January 10th – Gold Card Best Ball. Net/Gross, \$20 entry fee plus green and cart fee. Deadline is January 2nd at 5 pm. Open to all Gold Card members.

January 23rd – Couples Clinic & 9 holes of golf. Free Clinic at 1:30 pm; golf beginning at 2 pm. Fee is \$29.66 per person. Open to everyone. Please call 817-410-3377 to sign up. 🍷



City Holiday Schedules

During the holiday season, City offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 24th and 25th, and Friday, January 1st. Essential services will remain operational.

December 24th trash service will be provided as scheduled. Service normally provided on Fridays, December 25th and January 1st, will be provided on Saturdays, December 26th and January 2nd.

We wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! 🍷

WHOM TO CONTACT

Animal Control
817-410-3370
City Hall
817-410-3000
City Manager's Office
817-410-3105
City Secretary's Office
817-410-3182
Community Activities Center
817-410-3450
Fire Department
911, 817-410-8100
Municipal Court
817-410-3284
Grapevine Library
817-410-3400
Parks & Recreation
817-410-3470
Police Department
911, 817-410-3255
Public Works
817-410-3330
Senior Activities Center
817-410-8130
Website
www.grapevinetexas.gov

The Grapevine is a bi-monthly publication of the City of Grapevine. Questions should be directed to Jennifer Hibbs, Assistant City Manager, at jhibbs@grapevinetexas.gov. A special thanks to the following staff for their contributions: Linda Huff, Lisa McGowan, Janis Roberson, Leigh Burnham, Scott May, Mona Burk, Kent Conkle, Gregg Moss, Dewey Stoffels, Scott Rhodes, Stephanie Rivera and Pam Kinkema.